ADVANCE COPY

CANADIAN BRANCH

...of the...

St. John Ambulance Association

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT OF GENERAL COUNCIL.

The Canadian Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association was organized on February 24th, 1910, six years ago today, and on this occasion of the anniversary of its birth the General Council, desires to present the Annual Report for the year 1915.

It is gratifying to note the splendid work accomplished during the past twelve months, and to be in a position to report a record in the number of candidates instructed in First Aid and kindred subjects, as well as in certificates of proficiency issued. Since the commencement of active instructional work in 1911, steady progress has been made, and while the year 1914 showed a marked increase over the previous year, still more remarkable figures are presented for 1915.

During the past year the number of candidates receiving instruction was 21,036, compared to 10,448 in the previous year, an increase of 10,588. The certificates issued were 10,185, being 4,294 more than in 1914. The total persons receiving instruction in Canada since 1911 numbered over 46,000.

The Association has continued its policy of extending and encouraging the study of First Aid, and the response from every Provincial Council has been most gratifying. There has been a slight falling off in the work of the Railway Centres, explained largely by the enlistment of instructors and employees, in the overseas forces, and for other reasons which are explained in detail in the reports of the respective Railway Centres. The greatest proportionate increase was made in British Columbia, where 2,117 persons were instructed, compared to 677 in the previous year, and where 1,393 certificates were issued as against 427 in 1914. Ontario comes next with 5,427 instructed, compared to 2,810 in the year preceding, while 4,109 certificates were issued. Quebec Alberta, and Saskatchewan, doubled the number instructed the previous year and each year and each issued over four times the number of certificates than in the twelve months preceding. Equally good work was done by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and while the totals from these provinces are not as large as that reported from other centres, the increases over the previous year are much greater

While the teaching of First Aid, Home Nursing, and other subjects has occupied the activities of the Association to a large extent, it has not prevented the participation in other important duties entailed upon it by the great European war, and these features are referred to in detail, in the following pages. There is also given a tabulated statement showing the progress made since 1911.

WORK OF PROVINCIAL COUNCILS.

The General Executive Committee desires to express to the officials of the Provincial Councils and Railway Centres, their sincere appreciation of the work done during the past year, and to thank all for the splendid results achieved. No one realizes more than the officers of the General Council the difficulties which lie in the path of the workers in these bodies, and no one appreciates to a fuller extent, the sacrifices which have been made by all, in the advancement of First Aid instruction. The General Executive regrets that during the year it was necessary to disappoint the Provincial officers, on one or two occasions, in the matter of supplies, and this delay was caused through the non-delivery of orders from the parent Association. Lack of shipping facilities, and scarcity of labour in England were largely responsible. Arrangements have been made for keeping a sufficiently large stock on hand as to prevent a recurrence of this in the future. The Canadian Branch has also approached the parent Association with a view to publishing the First Aid textbook in Canada, and this matter has now been satisfactorily arranged.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In British Columbia Dr. W. D. Brydone-Jack, Mr. W. G. Pennock, and Mr. Wm. Burns, acting Secretary, have continued to take a most active interest. Mr. Burns succeeded Major F. C. McTavish, M.D., who had been Honorary Secretary of the Council since its organization in 1911. Major McTavish relinquished his position temporarily only on appointment for overseas service as second in command of the British Columbia Hospital Unit.

ALBERTA.

Mr. M. W. Harlow, the Honorary Secretary for Alberta, maintained his earnest work, ably supported by Dr. Tory, President of the Council.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Dr. W. D. Cowan, who took over the Presidency of the Saskatchewan Council from Mr. Wm. Trant, who found it necessary to retire owing to ill health, has shown a keen desire to further the objects of the Association and much is expected of him during the coming year. The most enthusiastic local Centre in the province is undoubtedly Saskatoon, and much of the success there is due to Mr. S. J. Johns, Chairman, Mr. James T. Hall, Secretary, and a most capable Executive Committee.

MANITOBA.

In Manitoba the work is largely centred around the capital, and the leading spirits are Mr. A. M. Nanton, and Mr. Geo. Luckhurst.

ONTARIO.

Ontario, as usual, has been in the forefront, and as for many years past the brunt of the work has been borne by Dr. C. J. Copp, who it is a pleasure to note has been made a Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Lt.-Col. Fotheringham, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Council, took an active interest in its affairs, but during the year left to assume more important duties at the front. He was succeeded by Mr. W. K. George. The President, Brig.-Gen'l. The Hon. James Mason, continued his usual keen and active connection.

QUEBEC.

On the departure of the late Lt.-Col. Yates for overseas service with the McGill Hospital unit, Mr. W. F. Angus assumed the Presidency of the Quebec Council. Mr. F. M. Scott, who was acting Honorary Secretary, was obliged to resign before the expiration of the year, and his duties were taken over by Mr. S. A. Gidlow, also Secretary of the C. P. Ry. Centre.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Miss Lillian Hazen, Hon. Secretary, has been most active in the affairs of the New Brunswick Council, assisted materially by the good counsels of Dr. Skinner. The President of the Council, Lt.-Col. J. Murray McLaren, C.M.G., has been overseas since the commencement of the war, but even at a distance has shown a deep interest in the movement.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The work in Nova Scotia has been looked after with considerable success by Mr. Jos. H. Chisholm, K.C., President, and Mr. W. H. Studd, Honorary Secretary. Mr. R. V. Harris, Chairman of the Halifax Centre, has taken more than usual interest in the classes in that city.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY CENTRE.

The Grand Trunk Railway Centre, has been active during the year. Lt.-Col. J. Alex. Hutchison, Chief Medical Officer, and Dr. Carmichael, Assistant, have been most persistent in creating and maintaining interest, and Mr. F. A. Bourne, the Honorary Secretary was untiring in his efforts to ensure a successful year.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CENTRE.

During the year, Mr. A. D. McTier assumed active charge of the First Aid Centre of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and under his direction the splendid work of the past few years will be maintained in the future. The Secretary, Mr. S. A. Gidlow, still continues his enthusiastic interest.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAY CENTRE.

On the Canadian Government Railways, the movement is taking progress largely due to the interest of Mr. F. P. Gutelius, General Manager, and Mr. W. C. Paver, Secretary of the Provident Fund.

All workers are giving their time and energies cheerfully, and any success obtained has been largely due to their efforts.

INSTRUCTION TO THE C.E.F.

Several times during the past year, and in fact, previous to that, attempts were made by the General Executive Committee to arouse an interest in the First Aid movement for the benefit of the troops of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The Adjutant-General's branch of the Department of Militia and Defence, had issued orders drawing the attention of Officers commanding units to the necessity for this training, and Medical officers concerned had been urged to take up the work. None of these efforts were successful, and as a result early in November the General Executive Committee prepared a memorandum for submission to the

Honourable the Minister of Militia and Defence, in which a scheme was outlined for the successful carrying out of its desires. Several plans were submitted preference being given to the following, which is an extract from the memorandum:—

> "The association suggests that authority be given for the appointment of First Aid instructors, with the rank and pay of a senior non-commissioned officer, in each unit, for a sufficient time to enable him to take up the work, so that each officer, N.C.O., and man would have a general knowledge of First Aid to enable him to be of service in case of accident or sudden illness. These Instructors could be attached to the Divisional Staff, and detailed to units from time to time, or could be appointed directly to the unit concerned. The Association will undertake to select from its trained First Aiders in each district, suitable men for the purpose, and will also supply a pamphlet for each student, giving the instruction in detail, so that the study could be taken up in private, and which could also be used as a reference book, as occasion required. All the expense would consist of the pay of the instructors, and the cost of a special issue of the publication referred to.
>
> A limited course of First Aid is proposed such as a general knowledge of the following subjects:—
>
> (a) Fractures, dislocations and sprains.
> (b) Haemorrhage or bleeding.
> (c) Artificial respiration and insensibility.
> (d) Bandaging.
> (e) Methods of carrying.

The scheme as above outlined was submitted to Field Marshal His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught, in his capacity as Grand Prior of the Order, and received his cordial approbation, and promise to enlist the co-operation of the Honourable the Minister of Militia and Defence.

The proposal was shortly afterwards laid before the Minister, who gave his hearty consent and issued the necessary authority for the work to be carried out in all Military Districts and Divisions in the Dominion. From three to five men are now being employed in each area or district, based upon the number of troops training for overseas. The instructors receive rank and pay of Quartermaster-Sergeants in the Army Medical Corps. In accordance with the above arrangements the Association prepared a condensation of

Cantlie's First Aid text book, which the Department has issued, and through the happy representations of His Royal Highness to the parent Association, a waiver of copyright was secured. Sufficient copies of this publication have been issued in both French and English to supply every man in training, and those to be trained during the coming year. It is strongly recommended that in addition each officer and N.C.O. on overseas service be supplied with at least two copies of the above book.

COMPETITIONS.

Early in the year the General Executive committee considered the question as to the advisability of holding the competitions for which special trophies have been provided, and it was decided that owing to the shortage of instructors, and that most of the leading teams throughout the country had been broken up through members enlisting for overseas service it would be better to postpone all contests, as was done the previous year. This arrangement proved most satisfactory but on the suggestion of the Honorary President, it was decided to carry out the Wallace Nesbitt Cadet Competition, and accordingly arrangements were entered into for contests in every province. The report in this regard was as follows:—

> "The Wallace Nesbitt Competitions for Cadets for 1915 have not been as successful as the contests conducted in 1913, but under the existing circumstances it is remarkable that it was possible to hold competitions in any of the provinces. The conditions of the competition for 1915 were similar to those in 1913 and due publicity was given, not only through the Provincial Councils, and in the newspapers, but by every cadet corps in Canada was circularized and attention was drawn to the competition by the Department of Militia and Defence, in general orders. It was found however that the war had made inroads into the cadet movement by the enlistment of instructors and those who had hitherto taken an interest in the First Aid movement among Cadet companies. Only four provinces completed the competition, and the results were as follows:—

SASKATCHEWAN COUNCIL.

Christ Church Cadets, Saskatoon	186
Humboldt High School, Humboldt	180

ONTARIO. COUNCIL.

Carleton Place, Public School	166
Galt Cadets	141
Hamilton Cadets	58

ALBERTA COUNCIL.

Bow Island Cadets	185
Pincher Creek Cadets	180
Central H.S., Calgary, Cadets	170
Crescent Heights, Calgary, Cadets	169
Vermilion School Cadets	161
Calgary (134) H.S. Cadets	148
Lamont School Cadets	145
Lethbridge School Cadets	134
Lethbridge School Cadets (No. 2)	116

QUEBEC COUNCIL.

Lower Canada College Cadets No. 1 team	187
" " " " No. 2 team	162
" " " " No. 3 team	140

The Grand Trunk Railway Centre held their team competition notwithstanding that many of their best First Aiders had gone on overseas service. Dr. Carmichael, the Assistant Chief Medical officer of the Company, conducted the preliminary examinations, in which 23 teams took part, at Battle Creek, Mich., Stratford, Toronto, and Montreal. Teams representing these districts were examined in the final for the beautiful silver trophy presented by E. J. Chamberlin, President Grand Trunk Railway System, in Montreal, on Thursday, January 20th. The judge was Dr. A. Thompson, M.P., of Dawson, and the Competition Secretary, was the General Secretary of the Canadian Branch.

The result showed that Montreal team No. 1, won 294 out of a possible 300 points, thus capturing the trophy. The names of the winning team are as follows:—Messrs. J. Russell, (Captain) C. Saunders, H. Pierce, A. Poitras, and Frank Boaz.

Since the competition referred to above took place, Mr. A. Poitras, one of the members of the team, has joined the First Aid Instructional staff for duty with the troops in the 4th Divisional area.

BRITISH RED CROSS COLLECTION.

In September, 1915, the Marquis of Lansdowne, President of the British Red Cross Society, addressed a cablegram to the Lieutenant-Governor of each of the Provinces of Canada stating that the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John, in view of the great demands upon their resources both in France and the

near East, had decided to make an appeal throughout the Empire, by street and other collections, upon the twenty-first day of October. The General Executive Committee of the Canadian Branch at once issued a circular to all Councils, Centres and individuals, which said in part, as follows:—

> "As the St. John Ambulance Association is the Ambulance Department of the Order of St. John, working in close co-operation with the British Red Cross Society, as are the Canadian Branch of the St.John Ambulance Association and the Canadian Branch of the Red Cross Society, the appeal is heartily concurred in, and the officers of every Centre of the Association are requested to immediately get into communication with the local branch of the Red Cross Society, if such exists, and with municipal bodies and other organizations, which would co-operate in carrying out a campaign on the lines suggested.
>
> As the time is short, it is earnestly requested that this matter be given the immediate attention of your Centre, so that the best results may be obtained."

The result of these collections throughout Canada was most creditable, and no small part of the success was no doubt due to the efforts of this Association in stimulating combined effort in many Centres and localities.

WAR WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The question is often asked as to the work done by the St. John Ambulance Association in Canada since the outbreak of the war, especially as in the Mother Country the Order of St. John is closely allied with the British Red Cross Society in all Red Cross work. Reference was made in the Annual report of last year to the arrangement made at the meeting held at Government House in August, 1914, by which the work of the Canadian Red Cross Society, the St. John Ambulance Association, and the St. John Ambulance Brigade was coordinated and each allotted their respective sphere of labour. In all appeals to the public therefore for money and supplies this Association has practically subordinated itself to the Canadian Red Cross Society in order that there might be no confusion in the public mind, also to obviate difficulties such as have recently arisen in the Motherland as to the status of certain so called Relief organizations, and to prevent duplication of appeals

and effort in Canada. Consequently all Red Cross work in the Dominion has been done in the name of the Canadian Red Cross Society, and our own workers in many instances constituted themselves into Red Cross organizations, where such did not previously exist, and sent their supplies to and through the Canadian Red Cross Society. To the Canadian Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association belongs the credit of organizing the Ottawa and Ottawa Valley branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society, possibly the strongest branch organization in the Dominion. The province of Prince Edward Island was organized by the President of our Association, Hon. Sir Louis H. Davies, assisted by Mr. Justice Haszard, President of the Prince Edward Island branch of this Association. The scattered Red Cross units in Nova Scotia were brought into one organization through the timely visit of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Cook.

NURSES FOR OVERSEAS.

The Canadian Copper Company of Sudbury, Ontario, through Mr. A. D. Miles, President, augmented their splendid contribution of $5,000.00, made last year to the parent Association, by presenting to the Canadian Red Cross Society, an additional sum of $10,000.00, which was to be utilized to defray the expenses of 20 nurses for overseas service, under the auspices of the Canadian Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Red Cross Society was to be the recipient of the money and pay all expenses, and the Association was to select the nurses. This arrangement worked out in a most satisfactory manner, and each Provincial Council of the Association was accorded the privilege of nominating a quota of nurses to represent them. All applicants were required to have graduated from a hospital of at least 100 beds, and to have had subsequent training. The entire party, including ten nurses nominated by the Canadian Red Cross Society, to complete the detachment of 30, assembled in Montreal on May 19th, and sailed on the S.S. Missanabie on the following morning.

An additional party of fifteen nurses, was arranged for later by the Association, at the request of the Canadian Relief Committee, and sailed on the S.S. Corsican, July 21st. Both parties of nurses were made up of young women possessing the highest qualities of hospital training, and many of them were taken over by the war office on their arrival in England, and transferred to various spheres of activity. The remainder are doing duty in St. John Ambulance hospitals in England.

VOLUNTARY AID DETACHMENTS.

The Militia Council on Nov. 29th, 1911, approved of a scheme for "The organization of Voluntary Medical Aid in Canada." This plan was revised in 1914, and as amended, was approved by the Militia Council on the 3rd March of that year.

In brief, the scheme provided for the creation of Voluntary Aid Committees in each Military Division or District in the Dominion, to be appointed by the Honourable the Minister of Militia. These Committees were charged with the responsibility of the organization of Voluntary Aid Detachments in connection with the Militia in the several areas or districts. They were empowered and recommended to delegate the formation and organization of the Detachments to the St. John Ambulance Association, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Canadian Red Cross Society. At the conference of representatives of these organizations held at Government House on 14th August, 1914, with the gracious approval of His Royal Highness The Governor General, the duty of organizing Voluntary Aid Detachments was assigned to the St. John Ambulance Association. Accordingly this Association immediately got into touch with the Voluntary Aid Committees appointed by the Minister. The Departmental Committee in each instance had met, and in accordance with the regulations had asked the St. John Ambulance Association to undertake the work. The organization of the Voluntary Aid Detachments commenced in Military District No. 6, as the first or the returning invalided soldiers were to arrive at the port of Halifax. The Detachment at Quebec was next arranged for, followed by that at Montreal and Ottawa, the duties at Montreal being assumed by the Khaki League at the request of the Quebec Provincial Council of this Association. The Ottawa Detachment has been organized over a year during which time every member has been thoroughly trained. Only recently the Detachment secured for the Hospital Commission, the Sir Sanford Fleming Home in Ottawa, and are now doing duty there. Owing to the substitution of the Military Hospitals Commission for the Divisional Voluntary Aid Committees, these Voluntary Aid Detachments have not been officially recognized and registered by the Department of Militia, although the regulations provide for this method of recognition.

FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS.

The study of First Aid is being adopted gradually by schools and colleges throughout the Dominion, and in several of the Provinces it is forming part of the course in the Normal Schools, and all those applying for teachers certificates are expected to qualify in

First Aid. British Columbia has been to the forefront in this, and the other provinces are following. In the province of Saskatchewan several large classes have been held among the teachers in Regina and Saskatoon, and the Educational Departments in Alberta and Nova Scotia have expressed approval of the plan. A start has been made in introducing First Aid instruction in Preparatory Academies, in the several provinces, and it is hoped that during the coming year most of the leading educational establishments will have adopted this study as a part of their curriculum.

ORGANIZATION.

On account of the many other activities of the Association during the year, there has not been the amount of new organization work accomplished, which had been desired. It is hoped that during 1916 every district in Canada can be assisted by a visit from the General Secretary.

In the Northern Ontario Mining Country the heads of the mining companies were interviewed as to their co-operation in First Aid instruction in connection with their enterprises and as a result several classes have been held, and many of the employees given a knowledge of First Aid.

PREMIERS SECOURS AUX BLESSES.

The Association found it necessary to publish a second edition of "Premiers Secours Aux Blesses," the french translation of Cantlie's First Aid to the Injured. This book is used in the province of Quebec, in New Brunswick, and in the province of Ontario, and is appreciated by the French speaking Canadians.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Association has during the past year received a number of contributions in cash from friends interested in the work, and in particular one donation of $500.00 from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec. The Council desires to extend its thanks for this kindly remembrance.

RETIREMENT OF HONORARY SECRETARY.

The General Council reports, with much regret, the retirement of Mr. Fred Cook as Honorary Secretary, after six years most faithful service in the interest of the First Aid movement in Canada. When the Canadian Branch of the Association was proposed in 1910, Mr. Cook was invited to take an interest in the organiza-

tion, and realizing the importance of the work, he gladly consented to do so. Since that date until the present time there has been no more active worker in Canada, and if any one individual is responsible, more than another, for the success of the Canadian Branch, the credit should undoubtedly be given to Mr. Cook. The General Council desires to express on behalf of the Canadian Branch, its regrets and sincere thanks to Mr. Cook, and tender him its appreciation of these services.

OBITUARY.

During the past year the Association has suffered a severe loss in the death of Lt.-Col. Lacey R. Johnson, and Lt.-Col. H. B. Yates, both members of the General Executive Committee. The late Col. Johnson was a most enthusiastic member of the Committee—one who seldom missed a meeting of the Executive, of which he was a member since the organization of the Canadian Branch in 1910. The late Col. Yates, was a Vice-President of the Association, and President of the Quebec Provincial Council, in which he took a keen interest. For several years previous to the organization of the Canadian Branch he was most active in First Aid Work in the Province of Quebec. Both gentlemen will be greatly missed in the Councils of the Association.

FINANCES.

The Financial Statement for the past year, duly audited, is as follows:—

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DECEMBER 31ST, 1915.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1914		$ 1,353.41
Supplies sold	$7,647.53	
Government Grant	5,000.00	
Subscriptions	530.00	
Red Cross account Nurses	2,501.05	
Interest from Bank	65.90	15,744.48
		$17,097.89

EXPENDITURES.

Supplies		$ 7,999.28
Office Expense:		
Salaries	$2,284.00	
Rent	225.00	
Printing and Stationery	262.68	
Telegraph and Telephone	166.70	
Sundries, postage, etc.	324.80	
Insurance	10.50	3,273.68
Organization and Travel		693.20
Nurses		3,017.10
Balance on hand Dec. 31st, 1915		2,114.63
		$17,097.89

Audited and found correct.

(Sgd.) J. B. Watson,

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

December 31st, 1915.

ASSETS.

Bank of Ottawa, balance at Credit	$2,114.63	
Accounts receivable	2,002.07	
St. John's Gate	1,752.00	
Supplies on hand	2,000.00	
		$7,868.70

LIABILITIES.

Accounts payable	$ 87.36	
Surplus	7,781.34	
		$7,868.70

Audited and found Correct.

(Sgd.) J. B. Watson.

(Sgd.) L. H. Davies, President.

R. J. Birdwhistle,
General Secretary.

Geo. H. Popham Print, Ottawa.